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Account of the refuscitation of a Mouse, found in a torpid state, enclosed in a fossil substance. Communicated in a letter from OLIVER FISKE, M.D. to Hon. ROBERT T. PAINE, A.A.F.

Worcester, March 15, 1803.

SIR,

ENCLOSED you will receive an authenticated statement of the facts respecting the refuscitation of a mouse, which some time since was the subject of a communication to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The testimony of Mr. Lincoln I could not obtain, as he now resides in some part of Vermont. Mrs. Andrews, and others of the family, can affirm all that is stated as having taken place in the house. Being personally acquainted with Mr. Andrews, who is one of our most respectable farmers, and a very correct man, I have not the least hesitation in subscribing my belief that the enclosed statement is correct.

I am, Sir, most respectfully, yours,

OLIVER FISKE.

Hon. ROBERT T. PAINE, Esq.

P. S. It may perhaps be inquired, why a matter so extraordinary was not sooner made public? It did not occur to Mr. Andrews, that a subject like this would be thought worthy of any particular notice. It was talked of among his neighbours, and almost forgotten. In October last, I had the
first

first intimation of it ; and judging the fact to be important, as connected with the investigation of natural history, I applied to Mr. Andrews for the purpose of preserving it, and received from him the narration as enclosed. Being apprised of the use I intended to make of it, Mr. Andrews appeared cautious not to state any thing, which he could not clearly recollect.

O. F.

In the month of November, A. D. 1798, being at work with my hired man, *Luke Lincoln*, in removing some loamy sand from a ridge, which projected into a meadow, we discovered a substance of about the size of a goose egg, which from its colour and consistence, we at first supposed to be a piece of iron ore ; being as hard as dried mortar, or a lump of clay exposed to the sun. After several attempts, with the corner of a spade, we broke it, and to our surprise, found its *nucleus* was a *mouse*, rounded into a compact form, which, upon being removed from the shell, left a vacancy of the same dimensions as its size.

Recollecting to have heard of the refuscitation of *toads*, dug from the earth in a similar situation, and with a view of making a similar experiment, I carried the mouse, to all appearance dead, into the house, and placed it at a proper distance from the fire to obtain a gradual warmth. Some symptoms of returning life began soon to appear ; after a little struggling, in a few minutes it was restored to a perfect, living state, and ran off with activity.

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The mouse was of the species, called by the Count de Buffon, the *long tailed field mouse*, or with us, from its shape, colour and activity, the *deer mouse*.

There was no appearance that the ground ever had been broken up, nor was there any communication from this substance with the external air, or surrounding earth. In short, we saw no reason to doubt that the mouse had been immured for a century.

DAVID ANDREWS.

Signed in presence of }
OLIVER FISKE. }

Worcester, March 3d, 1803.

Account of an Inscribed Rock, at Dighton, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, accompanied with a copy of the Inscription.
By JAMES WINTHROP, Esq.

IN Taunton river, about six miles below the town of Taunton, and within the limits of Dighton, is a rock containing an hieroglyphical inscription, which has long engaged the attention of the curious. The rock is on the eastern side of the river, upon the beach, and the inscribed side fronts about northwesterly. At the lowest tides the water retires from the foot of it, but at high water it is commonly covered. The longest side contains the inscription, and looks toward the channel of the river, and is the natural face of the rock, not smoothed